IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): An information processing apparatus comprising:

means for storing content data a content data storage area;

a controlling first controlling means having a software which controls storage or read for controlling reading/writing of [[the]] content data into or from from/to the content data storage means area; and

a second control means provided in a hardware independent of the controlling first control means to decrypt and execute for decrypting and executing an encrypted program supplied from the controlling first control means, and, to supply the result of the program execution to the controlling first control means;

the controlling first control means controlling the content data storage or read to or from the content data storage means reading/writing from/to the content data storage area based on the program execution result supplied from the program execution second control means.

Claim [[1]] 2 (Currently Amended): The apparatus as set forth in Claim 1, wherein:

the content data storage means area stores also management information with which for managing the content data stored in itself is managed therein; and

the controlling first control means makes controls the second control means program execution means to execute a predetermined computation based on the management information.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): The apparatus as set forth in Claim 1, wherein:

the ~~controlling~~ first control means is ~~a CPU~~ data processor;

the content data ~~storing means~~ storage area is a hard disc; and

the ~~program executing~~ second control means is a [[CPU]] data processor incorporated in a semiconductor IC other than ~~a one in which the CPU as~~ the ~~controlling~~ data processor of the first control means ~~is built~~.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): An information processing apparatus comprising:

a storage medium ~~for storing~~ configured to store content data and corresponding content management information ~~for the content data~~;

a process controller ~~formed from a software~~ employing an instruction set to control ~~storage or read~~ reading/writing of content data ~~into or from~~ from/to the storage medium; and

a program execution controller provided in a semiconductor chip independent of the process controller and which is supplied with an encrypted program from the process controller decrypts the program and supplies the result of the program execution to the process controller;

the process controller controlling storage or read of the content data into or from the storage medium based on the result of the program execution by the program execution controller; and

the program execution controller being adapted so that its internal operations cannot be confirmed from outside the semiconductor ship, and ~~making,~~ configured to perform a computation for checking any falsification made to the content management information.

Claims 5-8 (Canceled)

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): ~~The~~ An information processing apparatus ~~as set forth in Claim 8~~ comprising:

an input configured to receive content data;

a content data storage area configured to store content data supplied from the input means;

means for compressing, in accordance with a first data format, the content data stored in the content data storing means;

means for encrypting, in accordance with the first data format, the data stored in the content data storing means; and

means for controlling storage or read, into or from the content data storing means, of the content data compressed by the compressing means and encrypted by the encrypted means;

wherein the compressing means compresses, or the encrypting means encrypts, ~~different~~ data supplied in a format other than the first format from the input means, in ~~the same manner~~ accordance with the first data format.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): The apparatus as set forth in Claim 9, wherein the compressing means compresses, or encrypting means encrypts, ~~different~~ data supplied from the input means in different ~~manners~~ formats in one of a plurality of predetermined data formats, ~~respectively,~~ and ~~takes~~ utilizes a predetermined common compressing or encrypting ~~manner~~ format for outputting [[the]] content data read from the content data storing means to a predetermined apparatus.

4

Claim 11 (Currently Amended): An information processing apparatus comprising:

an interface via which content data is supplied from a predetermined recording medium or server;

a storage medium ~~for storing~~ configured to store content data supplied via the interface;

a compression program ~~for compressing~~ configured to compress content data for storage into the storage medium in a predetermined manner in accordance with a first data format;

an encryption program ~~for encrypting~~ configured to encrypt the content data for storage into the storage medium in a predetermined manner in accordance with the first data format; and

a controller ~~for controlling storage or read,~~ configured to control reading/writing into or from the storage medium, the content data having been compressed by the compression program and encrypted by the encryption program;

the compression program compressing, or the encryption program encrypting, content data supplied via the interface and having been ~~processed~~ provided in different ~~manners~~ formats, in the same ~~manner~~ format or different ~~manners~~ formats, respectively, for storage into the storage medium, and converting into a common format, when reading from the storage medium the content data having been compressed or encrypted in the different ~~manner~~ formats, respectively, for use by the apparatus or delivery to a predetermined portable device, ~~the content data so that they can be compressed or encrypted into a common manner to both this apparatus and portable device~~.

5

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): An information processing method comprising ~~the steps of~~:

inputting data;

storing the <u>input</u> data ~~supplied from the data input step~~;

compressing the ~~data~~ stored ~~at the data storing step~~ <u>data</u> in a predetermined manner;

encrypting the <u>stored</u> data ~~stored at the data storing step~~ in a predetermined manner; and

controlling ~~storage or read~~ <u>reading/writing</u> of the <u>compressed and encrypted</u> data ~~compressed at the compressing step and encrypted at the encrypting step~~.

Claim 13 (Currently Amended): An information processing method comprising ~~the steps of~~:

inputting content data from a predetermined recording medium or server;

storing <u>the input</u> content data ~~supplied at the data input step~~;

compressing the <u>stored</u> content data ~~stored at the data storing step~~ in <u>accordance with</u> a <u>first</u> ~~predetermined manner~~ <u>format</u>;

encrypting the <u>compressed</u> content data stored ~~at the compression step~~ in <u>accordance with</u> ~~a~~ <u>the first</u> format; and

controlling ~~storage or read,~~ <u>reading/writing</u> into or from the storage medium~~,~~ <u>of</u> the <u>compressed and encrypted</u> content data ~~having been compressed at the compressing step and encrypted at the encrypting step~~;

the compressing step compressing, or the encryption step encrypting, content data supplied at the data input step and having been ~~processed~~ <u>provided</u> in different ~~manners~~ <u>formats</u>, in the same ~~manner~~ <u>format</u> or different ~~manners~~ <u>formats</u>, respectively, for storage

into the storage medium, and converting into a common format, when reading from the storage medium the content data having been compressed or encrypted in the different manners formats, respectively, for use by the apparatus or delivery to a predetermined portable device.

Claim 14 (Currently Amended): A program storage medium having recorded therein a program intended for execution by an information processing apparatus and readable by a computer, the program causing the information processing apparatus to implement a method, comprising the steps of:

inputting data;

storing the input data supplied from the data input step;

compressing the stored data stored at the data storing step in a predetermined manner;

encrypting the stored data stored at the data storing step in a predetermined manner; and

controlling storage or read reading/writing of the compressed and encrypted data compressed at the compressing step and encrypted at the encrypting step.

wherein the compressing means compresses, or the encrypting means encrypts, data supplied in a format other than the first format from the input means, in accordance with the first data format.

Claim 15 (Currently Amended): An information processing apparatus comprising:

means for inputting an input for receiving content data;

means for storing a first storage area configured to store the content data supplied from the content data input means;

~~means for holding~~ a second storage area configured to store management information

for the content data stored in the content data storing means;

means for making a predetermined computation based on the management

information held in the ~~management information holding means~~ second storage area; and

means for controlling the usage of the content data stored in the ~~content data storing~~

~~means~~ first storage area according to a result of a comparison made between the result of the

computation made by the computing means and that of the past computation which is stored

in the ~~content data storing means~~ first storage area.

Claim 16 (Currently Amended): The apparatus as set forth in Claim 15, wherein the

computing means ~~makes~~ performs the computation using a hash function as the management

information.

Claim 17 (Previously Presented); The apparatus as set forth in Claim 15, wherein the

data is music data and the management information includes identification information for

identification of music data.

Claim 18 (Currently Amended): An information processing apparatus comprising:

an interface for input of content data and identification information of the content

data;

a storage medium ~~for storing~~ configured to store content data supplied via the

interface;

a first memory ~~for holding~~ configured to hold, as a usage rule file, the identification

information of the content data stored in the storage medium;

a management program for making a computation with the hash function applied to

the identification information held in the first memory;

a second memory ~~for storing~~ <u>configured to store</u> the result of the computation by the

management program; and

a controller ~~for comparing~~ <u>configured to compare</u> the result of the computation by the

management program with the past computation result stored in the second memory to

inhibit, when there is no coincidence between the computation results, copy or move of the

content data stored in the storage medium.

Claim 19 (Currently Amended): An information processing method, comprising ~~the~~

~~steps of~~:

inputting data;

storing the <u>input</u> data ~~supplied at the data input step~~;

holding management information for the <u>stored</u> data stored ~~at the data storing step~~;

making a predetermined computation based on the management information ~~held at~~

~~the management information holding step~~;

storing the result of the computation ~~made at the computing step~~; and

comparing the result of the computation ~~made at the computing step~~ with a past

computation result stored at the data storing step to control the usage of the data stored at the

data storing step.

Claim 20 (Currently Amended): An information processing method, comprising

~~steps of~~:

inputting content data and identification information of the content data;

9

storing the content data ~~supplied at the input step~~ into a storage medium;

holding, as a usage rule file, the identification information of the <u>stored</u> content data ~~stored at the storing step~~;

~~making~~ <u>performing</u> a computation with [[the]] <u>a</u> hash function applied to the identification information ~~held at the holding step~~;

storing the result of the computation ~~made at the computing step~~; and

comparing the result of the computation ~~at the computing step~~ with a past computation result stored at the storing step to inhibit, when there is coincidence between the computation results, copy or move of the content data stored in the storage medium.

Claim 21 (Currently Amended): A program storage medium having recorded therein a program intended for execution by an information processing apparatus and readable by a computer, the program <u>causing an information apparatus to implement a method,</u> comprising ~~the steps of~~:

inputting data;

storing the <u>input</u> data ~~supplied from the data input step~~;

holding management information for the <u>stored</u> data ~~stored at the data storing step~~;

~~making~~ <u>performing</u> a predetermined computation based on the management information ~~held at the management information holding step~~;

storing the result of the computation ~~made at the computation step~~; and

controlling the usage of the <u>stored</u> data ~~stored at the data storing step~~ according to a result of a comparison made between the result of the computation ~~made at the computing step~~ and that of the past computation stored at the data storing step.

Claim 22 (Currently Amended): An information processing apparatus comprising:

~~means for transmitting and receiving~~ an interface configured to transmit and receive data to and from other apparatus;

a first memory area configured to store a predetermined lock key and save key;

authentication means ~~which uses~~ for employing the lock key held in the ~~holding means~~ memory when transmitting and receiving data to and from the other apparatus to make a mutual authentication with the other apparatus to generate a communication key;

means for encrypting the communication key with the save key; and

~~means for storing~~ a second memory area configured to store the ~~data received by the data transmitting and receiving means~~ interface and having been encrypted with the communication key correspondingly to the communication key encrypted by the encrypting means.

Claim 23 (Previously Presented): The apparatus as set forth in Claim 22, further comprising:

an encryption key decrypting means for decrypting the communication key stored in the ~~storing means~~ second memory area using the save key; and

means for decrypting the data stored in the ~~storing means~~ second memory area.

Claim 24 (Currently Amended): An information processing apparatus comprising:

an interface via which data is transferred between the apparatus and a portable device or server connected to the apparatus;

a memory ~~for holding~~ configured to hold a predetermined master key and save key;

11

an authentication program which uses, when the data is to be transferred to or from

the portable device or server, the master key stored in the memory to make a mutual

authentication with the portable device or server to generate a communication key;

an encryption decryption program to decrypt, with the communication key, an

encryption key with which the content data transmitted from the portable device or server has

been encrypted and encrypt the encryption key with the save key;

a storage medium ~~for storing~~ <u>configured to store</u> the content data received via the

interface and encrypted with the communication key in correspondence with the encryption

key encrypted with the save key;

an encryption key decryption program to decrypt, with the save key, the encryption

key stored in the storage medium; and

a data decryption program to decrypt content data stored in the storage medium with

the encryption key encrypted by the encryption decryption program.

Claim 25 (Currently Amended): An information processing method, comprising ~~the~~

~~steps of~~:

transmitting and receiving data to and from other apparatus;

holding a predetermined lock key and save key;

using the lock key ~~held at the holding step~~ when transmitting and receiving data to

and from the other apparatus to make a mutual authentication with the other apparatus to

generate a communication key;

encrypting the communication key with the save key; and

storing the data received at the data transmitting and receiving step and having been

encrypted with the communication key correspondingly to the communication key encrypted

at the encrypting step.

Claim 26 (Currently Amended): An information processing method, comprising:

transferring data between the apparatus and a portable device or server connected to

the apparatus;

holding predetermined master key and save key;

mutually authenticating with the portable device or server, when data is to be

transferred to or from the portable device or server, using the master key held at the holding

step to generate a communication key;

decrypting, with the communication key, an encryption key with which the content

data transmitted from the portable device or server has been encrypted and encrypting the

encryption key with the save key;

storing the content data received via the interface and encrypted with the

communication key in correspondence with the encryption key encrypted with the save key;

decrypting, with the save key, the encryption key stored in the storage medium at the

storing step; and

decrypting content data stored in the storage medium with the encryption key

decrypted at the encryption decrypting step.

Claim 27 (Currently Amended): A program storage medium having recorded therein

a program intended for execution by an information processing apparatus and readable by a

computer to implement a method, the program comprising the steps of:

transmitting and receiving data to and from other apparatus;

holding a predetermined lock key and save key;

using the lock key ~~held at the holding step~~ when transmitting and receiving data to

and from the other apparatus to make a mutual authentication with the other apparatus to

generate a communication key;

encrypting the communication key with the save key; and

storing the <u>received</u> data ~~received at the data transmitting and receiving step and~~

having been encrypted with the communication key corresponding to the communication key

encrypted at the encrypting step.

Claim 28 (Previously Presented): An information processing apparatus comprising:

~~means for storing~~ <u>a first memory area configured to store</u> data;

~~means for holding~~ <u>a second memory area configured to store</u> ~~a second memory area~~

~~configured to store~~ the usage rule for the data stored in the first memory area;

means for judging whether or not, when moving the data stored in the ~~data storing~~

~~means~~ <u>first memory area</u> to other apparatus, the usage rule for the data stored in the ~~data~~

~~storing means~~ <u>first memory area</u> is reproducible by the other apparatus; and

means for moving, based on the result of the judgment by the judging means, the data

stored in the ~~data storing means~~ <u>first memory area</u> to the other apparatus along with the usage

rule for the data stored in the data storing means, which is held in the ~~holding means~~ <u>second</u>

<u>memory area</u>.

Claim 29 (Currently Amended): The apparatus as set forth in Claim 28, wherein the

usage rule for the data include:

a playback limiting condition;

a playback accounting condition; or

a copy limiting condition.

Claim 30 (Currently Amended): An information processing apparatus comprising:

a storage device <u>configured</u> to store ~~contend~~ <u>content</u> data;

a memory <u>configured</u> to hold a usage rule for the content data stored in the storage

device; and

a move management program to judge, when the content data stored in the storage

device is to be moved to a portable device, whether the portable device meets the usage rule;

move of the content data stored in the storage device to the portable device being

inhibited when it is determined as the result of the judgment by the move management

program that the portable device does not meet the usage rule.

Claim 31 (Previously Presented): The apparatus as set forth in Claim 30, wherein the

move includes copy, move or check-out, and the usage rule includes playback limiting

condition, playback accounting condition or copy limiting condition.

Claim 32 (Currently Amended): An information processing method, comprising

~~steps of~~:

storing data;

holding the usage rule for the <u>stored</u> data ~~stored at the data storing step~~;

judging whether or not, when moving the stored data ~~stored at the data storing step~~ to other apparatus, the usage rule for the stored ~~data stored at the data storing step~~ is reproducible by the other apparatus; and

moving, based on the result of the judgment at the judging step, the data stored in the data storing means to the other apparatus along with the usage rule for the data stored at the data storing step, which is held at the holding step.

Claim 33 (Currently Amended): An information processing method, comprising ~~steps of~~:

storing ~~contend~~ content data into a storage device;

holding in a memory a usage rule for the stored content data ~~stored in the storage device~~; and

judging, when the content data stored in the storage device is to be moved to a portable device, whether the portable device meets the usage rule;

inhibiting move of the content data stored in the storage device to the portable device when it is determined that the portable device does not meet the usage rule.

Claim 34 (Previously Presented): The method as set forth in Claim 33, wherein the move includes copy, move or check-out, and the usage rule includes playback limiting condition, playback accounting condition or copy limiting condition.

Claim 35 (Currently Amended): A program storage medium having recorded therein a program intended for execution by an information processing apparatus and readable by a computer to implement a method, ~~the program~~ comprising ~~steps of~~:

storing data;

holding [[the]] a usage rule for the stored data ~~stored at the data storing step~~;

judging whether or not, when moving the data stored at the data storing step to other apparatus, the usage rule for the data stored at the data storing step is reproducible by the other apparatus; and

moving, based on the result of the judgment ~~at the judging step~~, the data stored in the data storing means to the other apparatus along with the usage rule for the stored data ~~stored at the data storing step, which is held at the holding step~~.